

front and must meet job creation and investment performance standards to qualify for grant funds. These grants also require and are contingent upon local matches.

North Carolina continues to have a top-ranked business climate. Through Gov. Perdue's JobsNOW initiative, the state works aggressively to create jobs, train and retrain its workforce, and lay the foundation for a strong and sustainable economic future.

Through use of the One NC Fund, more than 50,000 jobs and \$9 billion in investment have been created since 2001. Other partners that helped with this project include: the N.C. Department of Commerce, N.C. Community Colleges, Burke County, the Town of Hildebran, Western Piedmont Council of Governments, Committee of 100, Duke Energy, and Burke Development Inc.

For more information about Geiger International, including job opportunities, go to www.geigerintl.com.

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